



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Division of Workers' Compensation - Medical Fee Dispute Resolution (MS-48)

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MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Requestor Name

ANTHONY TRAN MD

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-13-1049

MFDR Date Received

December 28, 2012

Respondent Name

WAUSAU BUSINESS INSURANCE CO

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 01

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "I am mailing a copy of the above mentioned claim, copy of the EOBs and this letter for your reconsideration. The above mentioned claim was denied by you for Dr. Tran not being a provider within the Liberty Mutual Health Care Network. I am appealing that decision based on the following: The injured employee was referred to Dr. Tran by one your in network providers, for an emergency procedure and because Dr. Tran is the only specialist of this kind in the area."

Amount in Dispute: \$452.00

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "In reference to dos 08/17/2012 [sic] that was denied as Provider is not within the Liberty Health Care Network (HCN) for this customer. TX Insurance Code 1305.004 (b) and Labor Code 401.0011. (X397 this decision maintains. The provider is not a participant in Liberty's HCN."

Response Submitted by: Liberty Mutual Insurance

DISPUTED SERVICES SUMMARY

| Date(s) of Service | Disputed Service(s) | Amount In Dispute | Amount Ordered |
|--------------------|--|-------------------|----------------|
| June 27, 2012 | CPT Code 64450, 64450-51, 99080-73, A4649, J1100 and J2001 | \$452.00 | \$0.00 |

FINDINGS AND DECISION

This medical fee dispute is decided pursuant to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and all-applicable, adopted rules of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation.

Background

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.305, sets out the procedures for resolving medical disputes.
2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307, sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
3. 28 Texas Insurance Code Chapter 1305 applicable to Health Care Certified Networks.

Issue

1. Did the requestor meet the requirements of 28 Texas Administrative Code 133.307(c)(2)(M)?
2. Did the Requestor obtain an out-of-network referral from the injured employee's treating doctor that has been approved by the network pursuant to Section 1305.103?
3. Is this dispute eligible for medical fee dispute resolution pursuant to 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307?

Findings

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307(c)(2)(M), requires that the request shall include “a copy of all applicable medical records specific to the dates of service in dispute.” Review of the submitted documentation finds that the requestor has not provided copies of all medical records specific to the dates of service in dispute.
2. The requestor filed this medical fee dispute to the Division asking for resolution pursuant to 28 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §133.307 titled *MDR of Fee Disputes*. The authority of the Division of Workers’ Compensation is to apply Texas Labor Code statutes and rules, including 28 TAC §133.307, is limited to the conditions outlined in the applicable portions of the Texas Insurance Code (TIC), Chapter 1305. In particular, TIC §1305.153 (c) provides that “Out-of-network providers who provide care as described by Section 1305.006 shall be reimbursed as provided by the Texas Workers’ Compensation Act and applicable rules of the commissioner of workers’ compensation.”

Texas Insurance Code Section 1305.006 states, in pertinent part, “(3) health care provided by an out-of-network provider pursuant to a referral from the injured employee's treating doctor that has been approved by the network pursuant to Section 1305.103.”

The requestor therefore has the burden to prove that the condition(s) outlined in the Texas Insurance Code §1305.006 were met in order to be eligible for dispute resolution. The following are the Division’s findings.

Texas Insurance Code Section 1305.103 requires that “(e) A treating doctor shall provide health care to the employee for the employee's compensable injury and shall make referrals to other network providers, or request referrals to out-of-network providers if medically necessary services are not available within the network. Referrals to out-of-network providers must be approved by the network. The network shall approve a referral to an out-of-network provider not later than the seventh day after the date on which the referral is requested, or sooner if circumstances and the condition of the employee require expedited approval. If the network denies the referral request, the employee may appeal the decision through the network's complaint process under Subchapter I.”

3. The requestor has the burden to prove that it obtained the appropriate approved out-of-network referral for the out-of-network healthcare it provided. Review of the submitted documentation finds that the requestor submitted insufficient documentation and/or no documentation to support that a referral was obtained from the treating doctor and approved by the network to treat the injured employee. The Division concludes that the requestor thereby has failed to meet the requirements of Texas Insurance Code Section 1305.006(3).

The Division finds that the requestor failed to prove in this case that that the requirements of Texas Insurance Code Section 1305.006(3) were met. Consequently, the services in dispute are not eligible for medical fee dispute resolution pursuant to 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307.

DECISION

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties, the Division has determined that this dispute is not eligible for resolution pursuant to 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307.

Authorized Signature

Signature

Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Manager

9/18/15
Date

YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

Either party to this medical fee dispute has a right to seek review of this decision in accordance with 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307, effective May 31, 2012, *37 Texas Register 3833*, **applicable to disputes filed on or after June 1, 2012.**

A party seeking review must submit a **Request to Schedule a Benefit Review Conference to Appeal a Medical Fee Dispute Decision** (form **DWC045M**) in accordance with the instructions on the form. The request must be received by the Division, within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. The request may be faxed, mailed or personally delivered to the Division using the contact information listed on the form, or to the field office handling the claim.

The party seeking review of the MDR decision shall deliver a copy of the request to all other parties involved in the dispute at the same time the request is filed with the Division. **Please include a copy of the *Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision*** together with any other required information specified in 28 Texas Administrative Code §141.1(d).